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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/541,999

02/28/2006

Kazuhito Kenmochi

05391/LH

6732

1933 7590 04/22/2008

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, PC
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EXAMINER

BRINSON, PATRICK F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3754

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/22/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/541,999	Applicant(s) KENMOCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner Patrick F. Brinson	Art Unit 3754	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,28,29,37-41,50,59 and 63-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 28,29,37-41,50,59 and 63-72 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/13/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 13 July 2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed that is not in the English language. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1, 2 and 4 in the reply filed on 14 September 2007 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. 601,966 to **Ivins**.

The **Ivins** reference discloses a highly dimensional accuracy pipe, as recited in claims 1 and 2. **Ivins** discloses a metal pipe and page 2, col. 1 discloses that the tube may be thicker at one end than at the other or may be thicker or thinner at the ends than at a point or points between the ends, with as many variations as desired in the

thickness of the walls of the tube and the change in thickness being either gradual or abrupt. The external surface of the tube may be cylindrical or tapered, as desired.

Fig. 3 discloses the ends being substantially the same thickness. **Ivins** does not disclose the recited method. The phrase “wherein at least one of a deviation of the outside diameter, the inside diameter and the thickness in the circumferential direction of the pipe as processed is 3% or less, as well as the steps of pushing at least one metal pipe in a hole provided in a die while a plug is being charged in the metal pipe is being treated as a product by process limitation. As set forth in MPEP 2113, product by process claims are NOT limited to the manipulations of the recited steps, only to the structure implied by the steps. Once a product appearing to be substantially the same or similar is found, a 35.U.S.C. 102/103 rejection may be made and the burden is shifted to applicant to show an unobvious difference. Thus, even though **Ivins** is silent as to the deviation of the inner or outer diameters and wall thicknesses being 3% or less or the step of providing a die that is at least one of an all-in-one or a fixed type die, it appears that the metal pipe of **Ivins** would be the same or similar to that claimed, especially since both the Applicant’s product and the prior art product are both drawn metal pipes.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Imamura et al., Stump, Higgin, Katunich et al, Noble, Takashi et al., Ditzel et al., and Sirors are all pertinent to Applicant's invention in disclosing metal drawn tubes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Patrick F. Brinson** whose telephone number is (571) 272-4897. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Kevin P. Shaver** can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patrick F. Brinson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3754

P. F. Brinson
April 17, 2008